

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ASMARA 00204 041758Z

67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 SCCT-01 SSO-00

OPR-02 FBO-02 /087 W

----- 126990

R 041150Z MAR 76

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3859

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

COMIDEASTFOR

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0204

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: FURTHER DETAILS ON INCIDENT OF MARCH 2

PAGE 2 RUFTEFA5204 C O N F I D E N T I A L

REF: ASMARA 0197 (DTG 020820Z MAR 76)

1. CONGEN HAS RECEIVED REPORTS THAT ACTUAL OBJECTIVE OF
INSURGENTS DURING FIREFIGHT EARLY MORNING MARCH 2 WAS NOT
POLICE STATION TWO BLOCKS FROM CONGEN, BUT RATHER MELOTTI
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ASMARA 00204 041758Z

BREWERY WHICH IS A HALF-MILE FURTHER SOUTH. THESE REPORTS

INDICATE THAT INSURGENT GROUP, ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY 20, WAS "INTERCEPTED" BY EPMG SECURITY TROOPS, THUS PRECIPITATING BRIEF BUT INTENSE FIREFIGHT WHICH LASTED 15 MINUTES (ALTHOUGH LIGHT FIRING CONTINUED FOR ADDITIONAL 25 MINUTES.). ONE REPORT CLAIMS THAT ONE OF THE INSURGENTS WAS HEARD BY A RESIDENT OF THE AREA TO CRY OUT THAT HE WAS WOUNDED BUT THAT HE FELT HE COULD STILL WALK. THIS COULD ACCOUNT FOR TRACES OF BLOOD FOUND IN AREA OF FIREFIGHT AS REPORTED REFTEL.

2. WE HAD REPORTS DAY AFTER THE INCIDENT WHICH CLAIM THAT OBJECTIVE MAY HAVE BEEN PLASTIC BAG FACTORY IN AREA BETWEEN POLICE STATION AND MELOTTI BREWERY; HOWEVER, IT NOW

PAGE 3 RUFTEFA5204 C O N F I D E N T I A L

APPEARS THAT MEGOTTI PLANT WAS ACTUAL OBJECTIVE. MARCH 2 INCIDENT, FOLLOWING CLOSELY HEELS OF FEB. 29 ATTACK ON ETHIO FABRICS, MAY INDICATE DELIBERATE EFFORTS BY INSURGENTS TO Cripple SELECTED INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES IN ASMARA IN EFFORT TO EXACERBATE PROBLEMS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND DISCONTENT AMONG ASMARA RESIDENTS. CONGEN UNDERSTANDS THAT DAMAGE DONE TO ETHIO FABRICS MAY REQUIRE AS MUCH AS NINE MONTHS TO REPAIR, THUS FORCING THEIR 6-700 EMPLOYEES TO JOIN RANKS OF UNEMPLOYED. WE MUST ASSUME THAT EPMG AUTHORITIES HERE ARE EQUALLY CAPABLE OF DISCERNING PATTERN OF INSURGENT ATTACKS AGAINST INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AND THUS WOULD BE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE SECURITY AT ALL MAJOR FACTORIES. SHERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PHYSICAL SECURITY, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ASMARA00204
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760083-0905
From: ASMARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760397/aaaadhep.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ASMARA 197
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER DETAILS ON INCIDENT OF MARCH 2 PAGE 2 RUFTEFA5204 C O N F I D E N T I A L
TAGS: PINS, ET
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006